

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3175

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 0148

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: US-INDIAN RELATIONS

1. AS EXPECTED THE PM'S ATTACKS ON THE US HAS RESULTED IN  
A CONTINUATION OF SOME BY LESSER FIGURES.

2. COMPLAINING TO THE GOI IS COMPLETELY INEFFECTIVE AND  
SOME OF THE OFFICIALS EXPRESS THE FIRMLY HELD BELIEF THAT  
MOST USG PROGRAMS RUN ON THEIR OWN MOMENTUM AND THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT HAS LITTLE OR NO EFFECT.

3. THE PRESENT "SITE" PROGRAM IS AN EXAMPLE. THE INDIANS FIND IT  
A CONVENIENT PROPAGANDA TOOL AND IN THE LAST FEW DAYS HAVE  
BEEN REPEATING ON SITE STATEMENTS BY BAROOAH AND THE PM CRITICAL  
OF THE US. THEY ALSO ANNOUNCED TODAY A MEETING OF 17 UNDER-  
DEVELOPED NATIONS WHERE THEY WILL EXPLAIN HOW THEY DEVELOPED THE  
"SITE" PROJECT. IN ONLY ONE NEWSPAPER WAS THE US PARTICIPATION  
MENTIONED. THE GOI HAS REQUESTED THAT "SITE" ACCOMMODATION  
BE CONTINUED FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

4. I AM CONVINCED THAT MRS. GANDHI BELIEVES SHE CAN FORCE  
THE US TO STIFLE ADVERSE US PRESS REPORTING BY CONTINUING  
HER ATTACKS. SHE ALSO FINDS IT VERY CONVENIENT TO BASE  
THE EMERGENCY ON OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

5. WE WILL, I BELIEVE, CONTINUE TO HAVE JOINT CONFERENCES,  
RESEARCH FUNDING, PL-480 GRANTS, FAVORABLE TARIFFS AND

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MARKETING CONDITIONS BECAUSE THESE AFFAIRS ARE IN THE HANDS

OF THE PEOPLE WHOSE JOBS DEPEND ON GETTING THESE THINGS  
DONE AND HAVE LITTLE OR NO INTEREST IN UNJUST CRITICISM OR  
OTHER ACTIVITIES BY INDIA AGAINST THE US.

6. I SEE NO ADVANTAGE IN ENGAGING IN A SHOUTING MATCH  
WITH INDIA AT THE PRESENT TIME AND NOT EVEN BENIGN NEGLECT  
IS GOING TO WORK UNLESS THE STATE DEPARTMENT GETS ON TOP  
OF EVERY CONTACT WITH INDIA.

7. AS TO THE IMMEDIATE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MEETING,  
HAVING THE MEETING WILL INDICATE THAT IT IS TO BE BUSINESS  
AS USUAL, THAT ALL GRANTS AND PROJECTS WILL CONTINUE, AND  
WE ARE PREPARED TO WEAR THE "KICK ME" SIGN INDEFINITELY.

8. I HAVE REPEATEDLY REMINDED MY CONTACTS THAT THEY MUST  
COME TO US TO BUY GRAIN AND THAT WE ARE THEIR BEST OUTLET  
FOR FINISHED GOODS, SUGAR AND JUTE, AND THAT THEIR SELF-  
INTEREST ALONE SHOULD INDICATE AT LEAST AN ARMS LENGTH  
FRIENDSHIP. BUT THIS IS OBVIOUSLY NOT TO BE. WHAT IS  
PARTICULARLY GALLING IS TO BE DAILY CONFRONTED BY THE  
"FASCIST" LABEL THAT HAS BEEN PINNED ON THE US AND I WONDER HOW  
LONG IT WILL BE BEFORE THE "BIG LIE" TECHNIQUE WILL SELL THIS TO  
THE THIRD WORLD AND UN MAJORITY.

9. INDIA HAS MANY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS THAT WILL NOT BE  
SOLVED BY STATE SOCIALISM AND THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT  
AN AWARENESS IS GROWING TO THIS FACT; HOWEVER, ONE CANNOT  
DEPEND ON INDIAN SELF-INTEREST TO ENSURE AMICABLE RELATIONS.

10. IF THIS WERE THE CASE, THEN WE COULD TALK ABOUT TOURISM,  
LANDING RIGHTS, NUCLEAR FUEL, FAVORABLE TRADE TERMS, AND  
ACTIVE SHARING OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC DATA. WITHOUT  
THIS CUSTOMARY TOOL WE ARE BECOMING A HELPLESS GIANT AND  
ONLY SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF THE PROBLEM AT THE HIGHEST  
LEVEL (INCLUDING CONGRESS) WILL CHANGE THE NATIONAL ATTITUDE  
OF THE US.

11. IN THE MEANTIME, WE CAN EXPECT MORE "BUSINESS AS USUAL"  
BY THE CIVIL SERVANTS WHOSE IMPORTANT MISSIONS WILL NOT BE  
INTERRUPTED BY SOMETHING AS MINOR AS NAME CALLING.

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